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Concerning Docket Number W-02514A-14-0343
Quail Creek Water Company Rate Increase

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Susan,

2015 JUL 17 P 2:55

I felt I needed to contact you directly about the water rate increase issue here in Quail Creek. I normally wouldn't write you concerning this kind of matter but I'm concerned this matter would not reach you. We have filled out the normal form required to comment on this issue and mailed it. But we were unsure that you would see this form since it is my understanding that a ACC staff member made the suggestion to Quail Creek Water Company about enacting this unfair water rate change.


First let me state that we are not opposed to a rate increase. We haven't had one for some time and I'm sure it is justified. My objection is to the unfair application of the new tier system that creates two classes of residents, with one class paying more than the other even though they use the same amount of water or even less. That is discriminatory to the homeowners with the mandatory large meters. The City of Sahuarita required the larger meter because we were required to have a fire sprinkler system in our house and the meter is required to support it.

We spoke to a person at Quail Creek Water Company by phone who said the proposed tier system is to encourage water conservation. We have lived in Quail Creek for nearly 10 years in several homes with smaller meters and our water consumption habits have not changed because we have a larger meter in our current house. In fact, we probably use less water now because our yard is much smaller and we have more native desert plants that require no irrigation. But apparently we are to be charged more for the same amount of water use as others just because my fire sprinklers might go off?

I'm sure that homes with swimming pools and hot tubs will use far more water than us because they back flush and refill these units on a regular basis. But if they have the older smaller meters they will pay less for water than we will. That is absolutely unfair.

Encouraging water conservation is a good idea, but doesn't it make more sense to charge more for the amount of water consumed? Use more, Pay more!

Sincerely,


Christi Tucker and John Emery
2252 E Spurwind Lane, Green Valley, AZ 85614
(520) 777-3798



Arizona Corporation Commission

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JUL 17 2015

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MLB

P.S. We are looking forward to talking with you again at one of our Quail Creek Republican Club functions and at the Sahuarita Tea Party Patriot meeting in September.

Teresa Tenbrink

From: Emery John <jjemery1@cox.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2015 4:51 PM
To: BitterSmith-Web
Cc: Tucker Christi
Subject: Case number: W-02514A-14-0343

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Ms Bittersmith,

I have contacted you before on this matter. I called your office to ask some questions, but understandably you were not available. I did leave a message that I would follow up with an email. Actually this is related to this case, but is more of a general policy question used in rate making cases. Hopefully you will share this letter with your fellow commissioners.

In the text of the document, I noted the following:

Direct testimony of John A. Cassidy May 6, 2015

Staff recommends:

"That the company be required to achieve a more balanced capital structure prior to the filing of it's next rate case; to the extent the company fails to effectuate a rebalancing of it's equity rich capital structure, Staff may recommend that a hypothetical capital structure be used for rate-making purposes."

In particular, the phrase "Staff may recommend that a hypothetical capital structure be used for rate-making purposes." disturbs me: HYPOTHETICAL CAPITAL STRUCTURE? How can a hypothetical anything be a basis for decision making?

It's possible that I don't understand the procedure, but I'm sure most people would find that word disturbing. If the staff of the A.C.C. is representing the interests of the consumer, I find that advice to a corporation seeking a rate increase very inappropriate. Any information you can provide on this matter would be appreciated.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,